

An
Essay
on the
Diseases of the Spleen

Respectfully Submitted
To the Faculty of the
Homeopathic Medical College
of Pennsylvania

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The Spleen is a small 1
oblong organ. situated in the left
hypochondriac region. It is of a
dark bluish red colour. is variable
in size, weight, and number, there
being sometimes more than one.
It is very vascular and extremely
fragile in texture. It is convex
on its external, and concave
on its internal surface.

The Spleen is in relation
by its external surface with the
diaphragm which separates it
from the ninth, tenth and eleventh
ribs. On its concave surface it
is in relation with the great end
of the stomach.

The function of the Spleen
has been and is still the subject of
much speculation. Physiologists
have heretofore failed to discover
the use of this organ. Experi-

ments have proven that this organ 2
may be extirpated with perfect-
impunity both in man and the
lower animals, taking a gen-

~~the~~ The diseases to which the
Spleen is most liable are. Infla-
mation. Indurations. Atrophy. Hyp-
ertrophy. and Haemorrhage. However
I shall only speak of inflam-
ation, induration, and hemorrhage.
These diseases are most common
in low marshy districts, and par-
ticularly in those places where
intermittent fever prevails. an
attack of, which is likely to be
followed by some derangement
of the spleen. The abuse of the
Sulphate of Iodine is a prolife-
-rative cause for these disorders, and
few cases of intermittent fever
that are treated Allopathically
recover without there remaining

some disorder of the spleen and 3
it is advisable for a physician
to make inquiry as to the prob-
ability of the patient's taking a quan-
tity of that drug so as to be able
to eradicate its effect more prompt-
ly when it much harder and

Inflammation of the spleen may
be known by the following group
of symptoms, unfeeling of fatigue,
sensation of dullness, loss of appetite,
indigestion, debility, emaciation,
paleness of countenance, bluish
colour of the sclerotic coat of the eye,
low spirits, ill humour, peevish-
ness, talking in sleep, night-mare,
inability to lie on the left side,
uneasy sensation in the region
of the spleen, bloating of the
face and eyes, also of the abdo-
men, palpitation of the heart,
dyspepsia, tendency and finally

death from dropsy or inanition. 41
The symptoms of induration
of the spleen are nearly allied to
those of inflammation, but may
be known by the following imp-
-ortant differences. in induration
the organ is much harder and
may be distinctly felt beneath
the ribs, and there is considerable
pain on pressure. also on walking
or riding on horseback. and some-
times the pain is so severe that
the patient feels as if he would
faint. there is frequently fever
usually of nocturnal type. slight
heat preceded by light chills, but
little thirst. and followed by debilitating
sweat. during the apyrexia
coldness of the extremities. nearly
red urine depositing a brick like
sediment. These diseases are fre-
quently complicated with bilious

or gastric affection and then the
symptoms usually attending those
diseases are also present

~~on~~ Hemorrhage of the Spleen is
usually the result of a fall or
blow which ruptures the vessel,
generally ~~when~~ hemorrhage of the spleen
is fatal owing to its great vascu-
larity. Arnica is most useful in

~~on~~ The remedies which will be
found most useful in the treat-
ment of this class of diseases, are,
Acet, Ars, Arn. China, Capsicum,
Carbo veg, Ignatia Ferrum Marc. &
and Sulphur

~~of~~ Hemitum is used when there
are febrile symptoms. such as,
dry heat, hot skin, great thirst,
dry mouth, furrowed tongue, red hot
fatty wine, quick full pulse, but
Arsenicum is used when there
is delirious, delirious tendency, burn-

ing in the epigastrium, nausea and vomiting. colligative sweats, pale hollow cadaverous countenance, or earthy colour of the face, bad taste bloating of the abdomen. also when the disease has been caused by the improper use of the sulphate of Iodine.

Arnica is most useful in case of injuries such as wounds, bruises and lacerations, and may frequently be given in alternation with Acon. with great success.

China is indicated where there is great weakness from loss of fluids, with loss of appetite, coated tongue, bloated abdomen, flatulence, colic, indigestion, diarrhoea with discharge of undigested food. peevishness, ill humour, and in children with symptoms of worms, such as grinding the teeth.

picking out the nose. restlessness, at night. bleeding at the nose also inability to lie on the left side, syncope

Capricium is most useful in those cases attended with high fever particularly at night with considerable heat slight thirst, restlessness, anxiety inability to lie on the left side, incubus, nocturnal diarrhoea. and sometimes with slight stitches in the region of the spleen.

Ignatia is used where there are dyspeptic symptoms, palpitations of the heart, fits of fainting, shortness of breath, impaired appetite, violent pain in the region of the spleen on taking exercise either walking or on horseback, depression of spirits fulness of the face, dizziness with sparks before the eyes. cramp in the stomach. and in females cramp in the uterus, attended with menses

too early and too profuse. and in children where there is irritation from worms we may give Sgn and Sina in alternation with the best of results. and sometimes where

the ~~the~~ Carbo veg is useful in stitch-
er in the spleen, vomiting of black
food, despeptic symptoms, such as
eructations, aversion to fat-food or
milk, and is also good in hemor-
rhage of black blood,

~~in the~~ Ferrum this is indicated in those
cases attended with great debility
emaciation, deterioration of the blood,
pale colour of the skin night
sweats, congestion to the head, swel-
lings around the eyes swelling of
the veins. vomiting of food,
short breath. loss of, or morbid appe-
tite. also useful where the attack
has been caused by ~~the~~ the Sulphate
of Irenine, and is very useful in

hemorrhage. where the blood is thin 9
and watery

Sulphur is chiefly used
in persons of a scrupulous or prone
constitution. and sometimes when
the other remedies seem to be of
no avail. we may give a drayf
of sulphur and then the other rem-
edies will have the desired effect-

thus. B. is used where there
are bilious symptoms such as, pain
in the head, thick coated tongue,
pain in the region of the liver. and
in those persons who are accustomed
to the use of ardent spirits. with
an aggravation of the symptoms in
the morning, waking with a confu-
sion of ideas. effects of excessive
mentale labour. obstinate constipa-
tion, abundant and painful catarrhe-
nia. and during the menses spasms
nausea and fainting

In acute affections these 10 remedies may be given with the best advantage in the low potencies, that is, about the third, and may be repeated according to circumstances, but in the chronic forms, the higher attenuations are most beneficial such as the fifth or even higher to suit the susceptibility of the patient and need not be given oftener than once or twice a day. The patient should take moderate exercise either walking or riding but when practicable walking is preferable. The diet should be moderate and such as will agree best with the patient.